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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/762,965	01/22/2004	Xudong Huang	0492479-0033 (MGH 2231)	6347
24280	7590	01/23/2006	EXAMINER STOCKTON, LAURA LYNNE	
CHOATE, HALL & STEWART LLP TWO INTERNATIONAL PLACE BOSTON, MA 02110			ART UNIT 1626	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 01/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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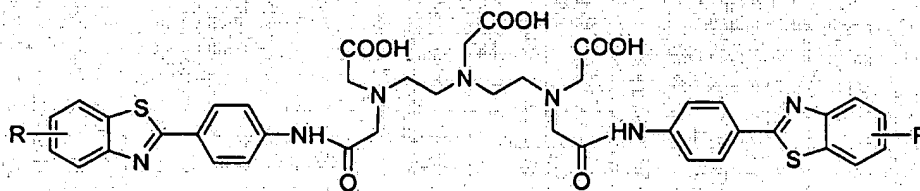
DETAILED ACTION

Claims 96-170 are pending in the application.

Election/Restrictions

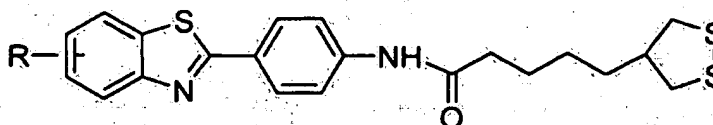
Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 96-101, 103 and 104, drawn to a bifunctional molecule having the following structure,



classified in class 548, subclass 156.

- II. Claims 96-100, 102, 103 and 105, drawn to a bifunctional molecule having the following structure,

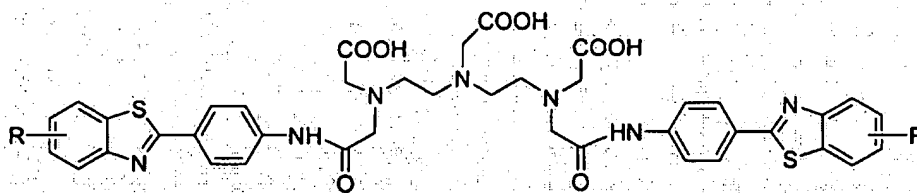


classified in class 548, subclass 178.

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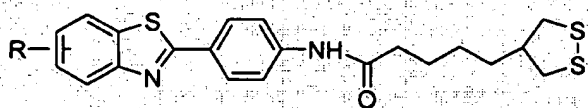
III. Claims 96-100 and 103, drawn to a bifunctional molecule not embraced by Group I or Group II.

IV. Claims 106-112, 114-119, 121 and 122, drawn to a method of using a bifunctional molecule having the following structure,



classified in class 514, subclass 367.

V. Claims 106-111, 113-118 and 120-122, drawn to a method of using a bifunctional molecule having the following structure,



classified in class 514, subclass 367.

VI. Claims 106-111, 114-118, 121 and 122, drawn to a method of using a bifunctional molecule not embraced by Group IV or Group V.

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VII. Claims 123-142, drawn to a contrast imaging agent, classified in class 424, subclass 1.11+.

VIII. Claims 143-170, drawn to a method for detecting the presence of amyloid deposits in a system, classified in class 424, subclass 9.1+.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons: the products of Groups I-III and VII differ materially in structure and element so much so as to be patentably distinct. In addition, a reference that anticipates one group may not even render obvious the other.

Inventions of Groups I-III and Groups IV-VI are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process

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of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product.

Inventions of Groups IV-VI and VIII are patentably distinct because each of the processes of use can be practiced with another materially different product. Further, Groups IV-VI are directed to a method for reducing or inhibiting amyloid toxicity in a system whereas Group VIII is directed to a method detecting the presence of amyloid deposits in a system.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above, have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, and the search required for Group I, for example, is not required for Group VIII, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. Therefore, it would impose an undue burden on the Examiner and the Patent

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Office's resources to examine the instant application if unrestricted.

The above groups themselves are inclusive of patentably distinct subject matter. Accordingly, along with the election of one of the above groups, the following action is also taken.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species (e.g., Example number, page number and structural depiction) from whichever group is ultimately elected, even though this requirement is traversed.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly

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admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Upon the election of a single disclosed species (e.g. Example, page number and structural depiction), a scope of the elected invention that has been examined, inclusive of the elected species, will be identified by the Examiner for examination.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects

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claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. **Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product** will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier.

Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C.

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101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re Brouwer* and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.**

Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply

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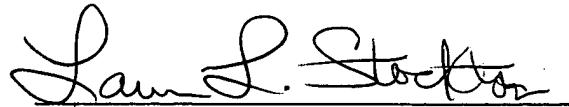
where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura L. Stockton whose telephone number is (571) 272-0710. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:15 am to 2:45 pm. If the examiner is out of the Office, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane, can be reached on (571) 272-0699.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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The Official fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Laura L. Stockton", written over a horizontal line.

Laura L. Stockton, Ph.D.

Patent Examiner

Art Unit 1626, Group 1620

Technology Center 1600

January 19, 2006